

# **ELK GROVE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

Fire ◆ Emergency Medical ◆ Parks & Recreation

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

8820 Elk Grove Boulevard, Suite 2, Elk Grove, CA 95624 (916) 685-9502 ◆ (916) 685-6622 FAX ◆ www.egcsd.ca.gov

For Immediate Release: February 14, 2003

**Elk Grove CSD Fire Department News Release:** 

LEVEL 3 HAZ MAT -- DRUG LAB WASTE DUMPED IN FRANKLIN

Date/Time of Incident: Friday, February 14, 2003 – 07:49 a.m. Type of Emergency: Hazardous Materials Incident – Level 3 Location: Southbound Franklin Boulevard North of Core Road

Incident Number: #F03016006

**Elk Grove, CA** – Material emitting vapors along a rural stretch of Franklin Boulevard caught a patrol officer's eye and prompted a multi-agency Level 3 Hazardous Materials response earlier today in rural South Sacramento County.

Elk Grove Community Services District (CSD) fire crews were dispatched at 7:49 a.m. following a mutual aid request by the California Highway Patrol to check a substance in the roadway on Franklin Boulevard just North of Core Road. Elk Grove CSD Fire Department's crew from Station 72, based in Franklin, arrived within four minutes and elevated the incident to Level 2 status at 7:56 a.m. after observing an unknown substance on the side of the roadway that appeared to be fuming. North and Southbound Franklin Boulevard was closed to traffic and Sacramento Fire Department's Hazardous Materials Unit was dispatched to respond per Sacramento County's regional hazardous materials response protocols.

SFD's haz mat team arrived at 8:32 a.m. and quickly elevated the incident to Level 3 at 8:34 a.m. prompting the response of second haz mat team to assist with the operation. Three trips were made into the "hot zone" area over nearly four hours by the haz mat group to try and identify the product and stabilize the substance that was fuming. Using specialized detection equipment, haz mat team members reported the presence of acid, fluoride and other trace chemicals within the dump site containing several items including a propane tank, tubing, and three plastic bags that held the fuming material. Information from the reconnaissance trips was relayed to officers with the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department Narcotics Division and the scene was turned over to Sheriff's Department personnel at 12:45 p.m. when the products in question were determined to be waste from a clandestine drug lab.

No evacuations were required during the incident. Residents living nearby were advised to "shelter-in-place" or stay inside during the incident. No injuries were reported.

At the time of this release (3:30 p.m.), Elk Grove CSD Fire Department and Sheriff's personnel remain on the scene completing the on-site investigation and clean-up. Franklin Boulevard remains closed at this hour. Estimated time for re-opening the roadway is roughly 5:00 p.m.

Inquiries regarding the criminal investigation should be directed to Sgt. Lou Fatur of the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department at (916) 874-5021.

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Incident Commander: Battalion Chief Mike Zehnder

Number of Medics: 1 Number of Engines: 1

Specialty Equipment: Hazardous Materials Teams: 2

Number of Firefighters: 22 Number of Chief Officers: 3

Contact: Kristyn Staby Public Information Officer Elk Grove Community Services District (916) 686-5426 (office)/(916) 814-2161 (pager) kristynstaby@egcsd.ca.gov www.egcsd.ca.gov